

Appl. No. : 09/454,766
Filed : December 3, 1999

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are responsive to the June 3, 2004 and the March 24, 2004 Final Office Action. Claims 1-4 and 12 have previously been cancelled without prejudice, Claims 5, 7-9, 11, and 13 have previously been presented, Claims 6, 10, and 14 remain as originally filed, and Claim 15 is cancelled herewith without prejudice. Thus, Claims 5-11, 13, and 14 are presented for further consideration.

Comments on the Allowability of Claims 5-11, 13, and 14

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the allowability of Claims 5-11, 13, and 14 in the March 24, 2004 Final Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendment described herein and reaffirm the allowability of Claims 5-11, 13, and 14.

Response to Rejection of Claim 15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

In the March 24, 2004 Final Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. As described herein, Applicants have cancelled Claim 15 without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendment and pass the remaining pending claims to allowance.

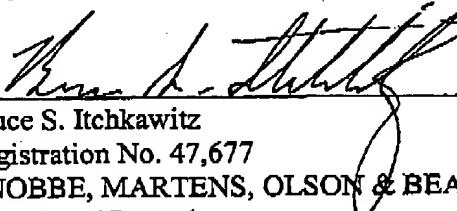
Summary

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner pass Claims 5-11, 13, and 14 to allowance.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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